PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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LECTURE LXIII.

BEWARE!

Germans are so inebriated with the inevitability of the victory of the *herrenvolk* that, leaders and people alike, they often pretend to be hardly cognisant of the idea of difficulty, let alone failure. When a serious setback, or perhaps disaster is too obvious to be ignored Dr. Goebbels and his department are generally made to assume a central position on the stage, to put over a programme of paradox, ingenuousness, full-blooded mendacity, and the rest of it. Just now, because most of the world, and part of his staff, think that Hitler has made *the faux pas* of his life with his attack on RUSSIA and because the price of his successes has been so terrible and inexplicable to his deluded people, a situation of some difficulty for him may be said to have arisen. Hence a curious, multifaced propaganda campaign from BERLIN, matched by some otherwise hardly explicable 'incidents', of which it behoves us to take notice in the mass.

Caution No. I.—Because it now looks as if there is bound to be a winter campaign in Russia (Even BERLIN communiqués appear to be resigned to the prospect) we must be most wary about assuming that Hitler's plan has failed. That is precisely what he would like us to think; that is just the reason why German propaganda has begun to be suspiciously frank about "difficulties on the Eastern Front". *Hitler himself does not think his plan has failed.* He is flinging millions of men into frontal attacks against strongly defended centres like LENINGRAD, KIEV (since fallen) and the Dnieper in order to have something to show his expectant people, who

live so near and hope so vividly. But even if he fails, he expects to smash RUSSIA, and then attack the MIDDLE EAST with a swift and deadly onslaught–acting on what Mr. Churchill has dubbed as his 'one by one policy'! *The Germans are confident of a complete victory in the spring*—provided always that they can prevent the building up of a really efficacious Anglo-American-Soviet front.

Caution No. 2.—The complacency Hitler would like his propaganda to engender among the Allies by cautious admissions of present difficulty would serve an important object. It would prevent the speedy and smooth consolidation of a British-American-Soviet front, for if the Germans were in truth nearly down and out and if we can be made to rely on Russian armies "literally springing from the earth" as the Germans now say, where would be the necessity for the vast extra effort in every allied factory and workshop, or the joint examination by allied military missions for the possibilities of the terrain here or there for joint aggressive action.

Caution No. 3.—Here is another cue recently given to Goebbels. "AMERICA has a strong isolationist party—so strong that "warmonger Roosevelt" dare not yet declare open war. All right. Embarrass his administration before he is ready, by attacking a few American ships!" There is the significance of such names as the "*Greer*", the "*Sessa*", the "*Montana*" and the "*Steel Seafarer*". "And if the Japs will do the same to one or two of those oil-ships on their way to VLADIVOSTOK, so much the better. If the Americans can be led to believe that the Germans are up against it already, the isolationists will have a strong card to play!".

Caution No. 4.—Observe carefully also the whispering campaign recently engineered among Germans abroad—particularly in STOCKHOLM—that an early peace with the Soviet is desirable, and actually on the cards. Ribbentrop is supposed to be backing an offer to cease hostilities on the basis of German retention of her present territorial gains in Western UKRAINE, and suzerainty over the Baltic States. Soviet leaders are alleged to be so fearful of the collapse of their régime that they are prepared to accept these terms, and join RUSSIA in an attack on BRITAIN!

Caution No. 5.—Hitler is pretending that he MUST gain the decision before winter sets in, or at least before the arrival of substantial Anglo-American supplies. He is prepared, says Dr. Goebbels, at last to invoke the aid of gas! This propaganda is to work two ways; it is to frighten the Russians, and it is to show that there is no need for AMERICA to come in, because a decision one way or the other is immediately imminent.

Having digested this fantasia, let us just remember the real essentials of the matter.—

(*a*) Once again, Hitler does not hope to beat the Russians before winter, but intends to mop them up in a spring campaign, and then use the European summer for a great thrust east and south.

(*b*) Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill have both seen through the barrage of propaganda, and are setting their countries heart and soul behind the Russians, in the effort to prevent one more country being 'picked off' the bunch of Hitler's opponents.

(*c*) We *know* that the whole structure of Nazi hopes does hang on the result of the Russo-German war—*but not necessarily this winter*! Complacency over Germany's alleged difficulties therefore would be fatal.

(*d*) We also *know* that any entertainment of peace suggestions with the Nazi machine uncrushed—no matter when or with whom—would be a positive betrayal of humanity.

(*e*) Faces grim with determination, ears deaf to the charmer, effort, effort, effort, "sweat and blood and tears"—such is the only answer to Dr. Goebbels until Nazism is as rare as cannibalism.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

19—9—41 to 24—9—41.

The fall of Kiev.—After a titanic struggle lasting several days, KIEV, the capital of the UKRAINE has fallen, and the majority of the defending forces have been withdrawn to positions of safety. The City is now a heap of ruins, as well as the graveyard of thousands of German soldiers who have been sacrificed to take it.

The loss of KIEV is no doubt serious, as it deprives the Russian army of the agricultural and industrial support of the UKRAINE. But strategically it is not in any way comparable to LENINGRAD or MOSCOW. Moreover the enemy cannot afford to repeat this costly experiment. While his loss before KIEV has been appalling his reserves are not inexhaustible. Beyond each place gained, another point of resistance rears its head. After KIEV it is going to be ROSTOV or KHARKOV. In her

immensity RUSSIA will swallow up the invader. The Russian army is still in tact, and all the Russian manhood is being conscripted. After 92 days of incessant struggle KIEV is the enemy's solitary success.

The German claim to have cut off the CRIMEA or reached the sea of Azov and the Finnish claim to have taken VALAMO in Lake Ladoga or approached Lake Onega go unconfirmed. What is fairly certain, however, is that in the approaches to LENINGRAD, now all swampy with rain and set with tank-traps some 10 miles deep, the combatants are locked in deadly embrace. With the aid of British planes in active support the Soviet land and air forces are stoutly defending the city. In the central sector Timoshenko who has now advanced some 30 miles continues to exert pressure, while in ODESSA guarded by its 'stalode' (named after Stalin) of triple fortifications, the situation has definitely improved.

The Battle of Production.—The Battle of RUSSIA, in other words, the 2000 miles long Battle of Tanks and Planes is, apart from the valour of the combatants, reducing itself to a Battle of Production—Production in GERMANY and the countries occupied by it *versus* Production in BRITAIN, the BRITISH COMMONWEALTH and AMERICA. The appeal of M. Maisky, the Soviet Ambassador in BRITAIN is for 'tanks, more tanks, and yet more tanks'. He warns, 'Too much reliance should not be placed on such uncertainties as 'General Winter' and 'General Mud'. With the modern technique of war these factors had been considerably minimised, and by now perhaps 'General Winter' had been reduced to a Colonel and 'General Mud' to a Major or Lieutenant'. He adds, 'Twice a giver is he, who gives it at the right time and in the right place'.

The *Times*, calling for a 'bold' response to the Russian appeal points out :—'Our aim must be to support RUSSIA by all the means in our power. There is satisfaction in knowing that we can now meet demands to which we could not have responded even a few months ago. Meet them we must, so far as it is humanly possible. No other such ally can ever appear in the Old World. No other army that can face the full might of GERMANY can replace the Red army if it should be overthrown'.

Tanks for Rusia.—British help which has already been sent in more substantial quantities than the world knows is increasing daily. A 'Tank Week' opened on Monday (22nd) has

been inaugurated to speed up tank production in BRITAIN for RUSSIA, and hundreds of tanks already manufactured in Midlands factories and named 'Stalin' and 'Lenin,' 'Varoshilov,' 'Timoshenko' and 'Budenny' are on their way.

The supply route.—As production will fail of its purpose if it did not reach the Russian front the opening up of the Iranian route is a factual achievement of no small importance. It has altered the whole strategic situation. According to the latest reports the communications of IRAN are being speedily improved.

Bulgaria.—The situation in BULGARIA following on the Molotov note is uncertain. GERMANY is rumoured to have confronted King Boris with an ultimatum to join the War. Already bribed with slices out of GREECE and YUGO-SLAVIA, he is now further tempted with the bait of THRACE including ISTANBUL, in return for which he is asked to kill gladly and without cause either the unoffending Turks, or his own kith and kin in RUSSIA who, in Czarist times, gave BULGARIA its liberty. To find an excuse false allegations are put forward such as that Russian parachutists descended on the DOBRUJA or that a Bulgarian ship was blown up by a Russian mine straying into Bulgarian waters in the Black Sea.

It has to be feared that BULGARIA is also being made a cat's paw of to sound TURKEY's attitude in regard to the Straits, which under the Montreux Convention is not accessible to the navy of any belligerent nation. Italian warships, under the plea of having been purchased by BULGARIA, are sought to be smuggled into the Black Sea through the Straits under the plea that BULGARIA, is a 'neutral'. But BULGARIA, having already declared War on GREECE and YUGO-SLAVIA is not exactly a non-belligerent or neutral. The purchase of warships is a bogus transaction.

The Bulgarian Government has for some time been preparing the ground for the enemy, purging the army of anti-German elements, imposing penalties against sabotage and establishing a Secret Police, and concentration camps on the Nazi model. The Black Sea port of VARNA has now been closed and a state of emergency proclaimed for the whole country. The only impediment is popular opposition of which daily evidence is furnished by acts of sabotage and shooting. Fires have been started and trains wrecked. In contradiction comes the news from BERLIN, that the Bulgarian minister of BULGARIA has on

behalf of his Government repudiated all aggressive intentions and, assured that BULGARIA would not enter the War, and all was quiet in the country.

The Neutrality Act.—While President Roosevelt is asking the Congress to increase the Lease and Lend allotment by 5,985 million dollars in order to enhance aid to the Allies, news comes of the torpedoing on Friday (19th) near ICELAND of yet another U. S. ship; the *Pink Star* of 6,859 tons (formerly Danish and now flying the Panama flag). It is now becoming more and more apparent that the Neutrality Act which prevents the arming of merchantmen and compels them to fly neutral flags has become out of date. It has also come to be realised that it is perfectly ridiculous that while the U. S. Navy has power to convoy *foreign* ships, it cannot, because of the Neutrality Act, protect *its own* vessels. It was also ludicrous that they should fly another flag in order to evade the Act. Cordell Hull, the Secretary of State has started the campaign for the repeal of the Act, which in the opinion of Col. Frank Knox, the Naval Chief is 'crippling'. Mr. John Green, President of the Industrial Union of Marine Shipbuilding Workers of AMERICA also thinks that it should be 'wiped off the Statute books'. Quoting precedents of 1798 and 1812 for arming merchantmen, President Roosevelt assured pressmen on Tuesday (23rd) that an early revision, amounting to a repeal, of the Neutrality Act was under consideration.

Under the Nazi Heel.—Tales of Nazi oppression are coming in daily from the Nazi-controlled newspapers themselves. As the *Daily Telegraph's* Correspondent states these papers are full of head lines, like 'Court martialled', 'Condemned to Death', 'New Acts of Sabotage' 'Wide-spread Arrests', 'New Death Penalty', and 'Dissident Uprisings' which reveal the tragic trend of events.

In Occupied FRANCE, arising out of the Curfew Order (imposed on PARIS as a reprisal for attacks on German soldiers) 200 arrests have been made, and hostages are being shot daily. In Unoccupied FRANCE, court-martials, as at CLERMONT FERRAND are in constant session and mass arrests of suspects proceed apace. In HUNGARY citizens have been imprisoned in concentration camps for infringement of food regulations.

In RUMANIA where deep dissatisfaction exists with the course of the war, orders have been issued to execute on the spot saboteurs caught red-handed.

In YUGO-SLAVIA conditions border on Civil War. Martial Law has been indefinitely proclaimed in certain areas in CROATIA and SERBIA and a punitive expedition is said to be imminent. Pitched battles are being fought in the mountains of HERZEGOVINA.

OSLO (NORWAY) prisons are packed to the limit and the factories are guarded by the army and are worked by forced labour impressed on pain of death. The streets are patrolled and the street corners are mounted with machine-guns

HOLLAND is covered by a network of Secret Societies.

In BELGIUM the 'Go slow' movement has made great headway, causing great fall in production. The output of coal has gone down by 36%. Electricity plants and Metal factories have come to a stand-still. Strikes lasting 80 days and more and affecting not less tham 125,000 workers have taken place.

Iran.—British and Russian troops are encampad outside the city of TEHERAN and not inside. The ex-Shah has ceded his property to his son, who has in turn transferred it to the nation. He has also left PERSIA and is on his way to the ARGENTINE. The new Shah has granted a general amnesty and the reconstituted cabinet and the Parliament are busy with schemes of reform and reconstruction of the judiciary, the police, the army, finance, economics, health, education and communications. State monopolies are to be abolished.

The Battle of Germany.—The main targets of the week have been BERLIN, STETIN (Baltic port) POLITZ and Northern FRANCE. Air Vice-Marshal J. O. Andrews in a speech on the 21st points out how last week's British air losses 62 against 71 (Axis) have restored the balance in BRITAIN's favour after it had been adverse for several weeks

Nazi lies.—In order to offset the devastating attacks of the R. A. F. on GERMANY, the German Radio is inventing stories of imaginary and extensive attacks on BRITAIN, some of which never happened. On an examination of 100 such announcements corresponding to the 12 weeks of the Russian campaign it has been brought to light that 61 of them are altogether false. Identical claims have been made on different days under the cloak of phrases like 'last night' and 'past week'. Sometimes a target is claimed to have been hit over which not a single bomb fell and inland targets are mentioned as though they were 'harbour installations'. Small fires are magnified

into 'conflagrations' and country cottages into 'objects of military importance'.

Middle East.—There are indications of a coming winter campaign in the MIDDLE EAST for which both sides are vigorously preparing. British tanks, guns, aeroplanes and reinforcements are flowing in large number into the Western Desert. The enemy is attempting to draw supplies across the Mediterranean as may be inferred from the increasing tale of enemy ships sunk of late in this area.

Far East.—The situation in the FAR EAST continues to be nebulous and if anything, appears to have worsened. JAPAN is said to have sent a protest to RUSSIA against the drifting of Russian mines into the Sea of JAPAN. Border incidents between Japanese and Russian troops are reported. THAI is discomposed. On top comes Dr. Wellington Kuo's indictment, that 'sword rattling had been JAPAN's favourite pastime'. She was the big bully of the FAR EAST. Comprehension, co-operation, the new order and the co-prosperity sphere were but 'slogans to mark her boundless ambition to conquer and dominate'.

Inter-Allied Conference.—The second meeting of this conference was held in LONDON on Wednesday (24th), presided over by Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary. Delegates from CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, South AFRICA, BELGIUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, Free FRANCE, GREECE, YUGO-SLAVIA, POLAND, NORWAY, the NETHERLANDS and LUXEMBERG were present. Soviet RUSSIA was represented by M. Maisky. The conference accepted the Atlantic Charter drawn up by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill as the key-stone of Post-War Policy and has agreed to set up a bureau in LONDON to co-ordinate schemes for the feeding of EUROPE after the war.

SIDE LIGHTS.

ROOSEVELT'S SPEECH. Mr. Roosevelt, despite certain captious complaints that he talks when he might act, is one of the world's best realists. We have several times tried to explain in this paper the immense difficulty of his job, and the great debt the allies owe him for having engendered the already enormous American war effort. His last speech must put extra vim into that effort and must have been the worst

hearing for the Germans that they have so far been forced to listen to. He did at least emphasise what most commentators seem apt to ignore namely that the German method of sea-warfare is not legitimate belligerency, but plain PIRACY. And every nation on earth has a right, if they have the power, to attack and destroy pirates, whether their country is in a state of war or not.

There was no necessity for Mr. Roosevelt to specify "American waters" or make any other territorial definitions. All he had to do was to make it plain that American ships would sink on sight, in any waters, such Axis vessels as they found interfering with the traditional and precious doctrine of the "freedom of the seas", no matter whose vessels were molested or threatened.

Incidentally with his "conspiracy on conspiracy" allusion to the recently discovered state of affairs in several South American republics, he debunked the sneer that BRITAIN was using America to pull her chestnuts out of the fire. Mr. Roosevelt has no illusions as whose chestnuts have to be rescued from the Nazi grill, and Isolationists will find it hard to answer his "that, my friends is simple arithmetic" remark apropos of the U. S. A. Navy only being invincible as long as the British Navy remains intact.

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THE GREAT BATTLE. To anyone of the least sensitivity the daily news from the Russian front is literally sickening. Holocausts of youthful lives, not as a grand climax to a single battle, but a daily and almost hourly occurrence for weeks on end over hundreds of miles of country! The older among us can remember the 'stellenbosching' of this or that general in the South African, or even in the last war, on the grounds that they were insufficiently considerate of the lives of the forces in their charge. 20,000 caualties on either side was a *horrifying* thought. Satan's face these days must wear rather a derisive grin if he remembers those days and then reads the daily communiqués from LENINGRAD or KIEV!

It is so difficult to build a correct picture of this hideous affair that a little moralising may be excused, but there is a factor, i. e., a matter of fact, pertaining to it which merits a little thought, namely the weather. The optimistic import of the 'fall of the year" in RUSSIA has to our mind been slightly overdone, in spite of Sir Archibald Wavell's salute to Generals December, January and February. The Germans will be prepared, as they have been prepared for every other eventuality, for a winter campaign in RUSSIA, even though they don't relish the idea, and we should be foolish to hope that Hitler's doom is sealed and the body of his murderous Frankenstein already on the 'drop' when the Russian skies first fill with snow! Only the endurance of lovers of human liberty imbued with the sanctity of their cause

and supported cent per cent by the effort of their factory workers everywhere from ALASKA to the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE and from MURMANSK to CAPE COMORIN will make that megalomaniac and his hordes of mechanised-souls cry 'enough !'

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WINTER. We do not think there is a chance of winter stopping the fighting. Nevertheless, there are certain ways in which it will strongly affect it. Prolonged *rain* will fill up the rivers, lakes and marshes and turn them into tank-traps. It will impede communications and inhibit mechanised transport across open country. And it will water-log the many temporary aerodromes all along the rear of the vast front.

Snow will do more—it will block the whole countryside. *Frost*, the frost of real winter, is the last word. The very maintenance of all forms of mechanised vehicles and aircraft becomes difficult in the extreme.

Such conditions affect both sides, and the Russian autumn has begun. Snow has been reported in FINLAND, and there has been considerable rain in the LENINGRAD and SMOLENSK sectors. Winter is on its way, but except in the north snow is unlikely in any quantity before the end of next month. The essential point of this meteorological discussion is that when winter does alter the character of the fighting, the advantage must lie with the side which has the shorter lines of communications and supplies, and we pray anxiously–and confidently–that the Russians, even if they lose important cities and rich districts, will maintain esprit and cohesion until nature reverses the disadvantages of unpreparedness and vulnerability of which Hitler took such dastardly advantage in June.

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"BY THEIR DEEDS YE SHALL KNOW THEM" H. H. The Khan of KELAT sent a message to the Viceroy on June 5th about IRAQ. "Not only Iraq," he said, "but the whole Muslim world will remember this generosity" He was referring to the British treatment of IRAQ after the peace had been broken by Rashid Ali's treachery. Muslims to-day may well echo the remark apropos of British treatment of IRAN.

Compare for a moment the Allied 'overrunning' of these two countries with the German behaviour in NORWAY, the LOW COUNTRIES or FRANCE.

In IRAQ Britain restored the rightful ruler, left in Iraqi hands not only all the powers of administration but even the responsibility for bringing to justice those who had disturbed the country's peace. Their treatment of IRAN is much the same. A misguided, selfish and corrupt monarch has

abdicated, but the form of government is not changed. No territorial concessions whatever have been demanded. Wherever at all possible (naturally the oilfields and the routes on which the safety of INDIA herself depend must be garrisoned by Allied forces) the Iranian administration is being supported to the utmost. Iranian troops are permitted to retain their arms. All we are demanding is the destruction of German Fifth Column agencies, and the closing of German, Italian, Hungarian and Rumanian consulates.

Compare these methods and objects with those of the Germans as already displayed. Forced billeting, rapine and *zaburdasti* over the whole countryside. Instead of respect for national sovereignty, deliberate attempts on the lives of rulers, and the substitution of German 'Government by decree' through Quislings or Seiss-Inquarts for exiled monarchs or popularly elected premiers. Where BRITAIN has merely safeguarded her existing commercial interests and at the same time (as in IRAN and IRAQ) assumed responsibility for relieving food shortage, the Germans have shamelessly plundered every land they have occupied. Where BRITAIN merely demands the internment of enemy aliens, GERMANY has seized hostages by the thousand for purposes of political pressure, and impressed more than thousands of labourers—by the most infamous means–to slave for their own war-machine. Above all, perhaps, have the Allies inflicated on any sphere they have taken over, such monstrosities as the Gestapo and the concentration-camp?

They say now that ITALY is beginning to hint in American circles that she has had enough—enough of the war and enough of her allies. Perhaps she has been totting up this balance-sheet.

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THE FOOD QUESTION. There seems little doubt that civilian EUROPE is in for a bad time this winter. The Germans, of course, pretend that there is no real anxiety. Their radio in one country is constantly giving rosy accounts of the harvests and the reserves in the next country, and so on all round. But the facts are that even while DENMARK or HOLLAND or BELGIUM or the rest could supply their own needs if they were allowed to, the Germans systematically plunder them in order to persuade their own people that aggression pays! They have also, it must be remembered a most elaborate *ersatz* production programme, and millions of tons of the edibles that would keep women and babies alive through a European winter are systematically burgled for conversion into the sinews of war.

Unprejudiced observers, Americans mostly, foretell a very grim prospect for the millions under the German heel a bad weather, a terrible shortage of labour (mostly conscripted for GERMANY) and an universal shortage, almost to starvation mark, of essential foods.

In refreshing contrast to German methods is the report that BRITAIN has agreed to a first consignment of 50,000 tons of food being consigned to GREECE through TURKEY. She would do more to help the innocents of the continent if she could be sure that the unspeakable Hun would not steal the stuff first. She has always been and still is, prepared to lift the blockade whenever she safely can, but alas Hitler's rule in the occupied territories is that whoever goes short of food, it will not be the Germans and on no account whatever can BRITAIN possibly afford to risk nourishing so unspeakable an enemy.

BRITISH and RUSSIAN Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	Russian and British air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
15—9—41. (Monday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	An enemy convoy off the FRISIAN Islands.	...	One ship sunk. Another damaged.
	Enemy ships in harbour aud a factory at HAUGESUND (NORWAY).	...	Factory set on fire.
	Offensive patrols over the CHANNEL and enemy-occupied territory.	1 bomber and 1 fighter.	1 fighter.
NIGHT :—			
	Shipyards, factories and railways at HAMBURG.	...	Large fires started.
	The German ports of BREMEN, CUXHAVEN and WILHELMSHAVEN.	...	Damaged,
	The docks at LE HAVRE ...	...	...
	Enemy aerodromes in occupied territory.	9 planes.	6 planes.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.	...	Fires started.
	The harbour at BARDIA ...	...	Damaged.
	Ships at TRIPOLI ...	...	...
	Reconnaissance over Enemy territory.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	Russian and British air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
15—9—41. (Monday.)—*cont.*			
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Infantry, Artillery, air combats and aeroplanes along the whole fighting area.	25 planes.	78 planes.
16—9—41. (Tuesday).			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	Military objectives in KARLSRUHE **and other places** in Western GERMANY. **The docks** at LE HAVRE ...	No loss.	Fires started.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Harbours and shipping at BENGHAZI and TRIPOLI.	...	A tanker set ablaze.
	Dumps of stores at BARDIA ...	...	Set on fire.
	Enemy positions, trenches and building at AZOZO.	No loss.	...
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle area.	...	...
17—9—41. (Wednesday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	A power plant at MAZINGARBE (near BETHUNE).	1 bomber and 7 fighters.	Damaged; 6 fighters.
	Rescue service on the sea ...	...	1 fighter.
	Offensive sweeps over the French coast	6 fighters.	4 fighters.
	4 enemy minesweepers off the Belgian coast.	...	2 minesweepers sunk; 2 others damaged.
NIGHT :—			
	Military objectives at KARLSRUHE ...	1 bomber.	...
	The docks at LE HAVRE ...	...	...
	A supply ship off the NORWEGIAN coast.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	Russian and British air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
17—9—41. (Wednesday).—*cont.*			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	No information available.		
	SICILY.		
	Munition factories at LICATA	...	Buildings demolished; fires started.
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Air combats and aeroplanes on the aerodromes throughout the entire front.	23 planes.	45 planes.
18—9—41. **(Thursday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	MORNING :—		
	A large enemy supply ship off the Belgian coast.	...	Damaged.
	AFTERNOON :—		
	Two motor vessels off the DUTCH coast.	...	One vessel damaged.
	The power station near ROUEN	2 bombers and 9 fighters.	...
	Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE.	2 pilots safe.	16 fighters.
	NIGHT :—		
	The docks at LE HAVRE	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour and shipping at TRIPOLI and BENGHAZI.	...	Ships hit.
	The landing ground and ammunition dumps at GAMBUT.	...	...
	The harbour and fuel dumps at BARDIA.	...	...
	Motor transport and enemy camps at MERSA LUKK.	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	2 Merchant vessels with five escort ships in the central MEDITERRANEAN.	...	1 vessel hit.

Date.	Targets.	Russian and British air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
18—9—41.	**(Thursday)**—*cont.*		
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Air combats, enemy positions and aircraft on the ground along the whole battle area.	14 planes.	16 planes.
19—9—41.	**(Friday.)**		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	A small supply ship in the BAY of BISCAY.	...	The vessel hit.
	Supply trains, enemy troops and patrol ships in the occupied territory and the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	1 fighter.	2 fighters.
NIGHT :—			
	Docks, warehouses and railway yards at STETTIN.	...	Damaged.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	No information available.		
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy panzer troops, Infantry, Artillery and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole fighting area.	24 planes.	60 planes.
	GERMANY.		
BERLIN	... ...	...	...
20—9—41.	**(Saturday.)**		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	The Naval Base at EMDEN ...	...	...
	Military objectives in Northern FRANCE.	...	...
	A fish oil factory on the coast of NORWAY.	...	...
	Railways at HAZEBRUCK and ABBEVILLE.	...	...
	Shipyards at ROUEN ...	3 bombers and	...
	The docks at CHERBOURG ...	7 fighters.	15 fighters.
	Two Enemy Convoys off the DUTCH coast.	...	4 ships set on fire.

Date.	Targets.	Russian and British air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
20—9—41.	(Saturday.)—*cont.*		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE—*cont.*		
	NIGHT :—		
	Military objectives at BERLIN and FRANKFURT.	...	...
	Aerodromes in Northern FRANCE ...	...	...
	The docks at OSTEND ...	4 planes.	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Enemy shipping in the region of TRIPOLI.	1 plane.	1 vessel blown up; another set on fire.
	One merchant ship off KERKENNA.	...	Sunk.
	An enemy destroyer off TRIPOLI ...	...	Hit.
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.	2 planes.	...
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Infantry, Panzer units, air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle sector.	21 planes.	100 planes.
21—9—41.	(Sunday.)		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	A power station at GOSNAY ...	...	Fires started.
	Railway objectives at LILLE ...	...	...
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.	13 fighters.	24 planes.
	(By Russian planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle area.	16 planes.	53 planes.

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Russian Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
16—9—41.	(Tuesday).		
	BRITAIN.		
	No information available.		

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Russian Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
16—9—41. (Tuesday)—*cont.*			
	EGYPT.		
	Cairo	...	39 people killed and 93 injured.
	RUSSIA.		
	Leningrad and **Kiev** ...	...	...
17—9—41. (Wednesday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
	NIGHT :— **Two places** on the South-east coast and **one point** in East ANGLIA.	...	No damage or casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	Leningrad ...	...	...
	EGYPT.		
	Alexandria ...	...	3 killed and 6 injured.
18—9—41. (Thursday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
	No information available.		
	RUSSIA.		
	Leningrad ...	...	...
19—9—41. (Friday).			
	BRITAIN.		
	No information available.		
	EGYPT.		
	Suez Canal Zone ...	...	3 people injured. Very slight damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	Moscow ...	...	All driven away except one. No damage.
20—9—41. (Saturday).			
	BRITAIN.		
	Points in South and Eastern ENGLAND.	1 plane.	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	Leningrad.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Russian Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
21—9—41. (Sunday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few places on the East and South-east coast of ENGLAND.	...	Slight casualties and no damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	Leningrad.	...	...
22—9—41. (Monday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	One point in East ANGLIA.	...	No damage or casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	Leningrad.	...	...

AMERICA'S ATTITUDE THROUGH TWO YEARS OF WAR.

HOW THE TIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION HAS ADVANCED.

FROM THE NEUTRALITY ACT TO THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S POLICY.

by

Edward Montgomery.

From the Neutrality Act to the Atlantic Declaration is a long political jump. The people of the United States made that jump in their political thinking in just under two years.

Parallels are frequently drawn between the course of events in this war and in the last war. They are generally unsound. Particularly so when attempts are made to compare the change in the attitude of the American people towards this war with that change in the last war.

At the beginning of the last war the American people regarded Germany as an autocratic monarchy, neither better nor worse than other autocratic monarchies of the time. Germany was regarded by many Americans with admiration for her cultural and scientific achievements and the conception held by most Americans of the German people was a friendly one.

On the outbreak of this war the régime in Germany was held in general detestation in America for its tyranny and cruelty, for its denial of elementary political rights, its savage repression of political opposition, and the persecution of racial minorities.

Thus, on September 3, 1939, the great majority of American public opinion was strongly antipathetic to Germany and her Fascist associates and sympathetic towards the democracies opposed to them.

There was official admission of this in President Roosevelt's proclamation of neutrality in which the American people were told that though they must be neutral in deed there could be no compulsion to make them neutral in thought.

Practical proof of it was forthcoming in a few weeks in the legislative action which repealed those sections of Neutrality Act forbidding the sale of munitions and weapons to war belligerents and substituting for them the so-called "Cash and Carry" amendments.

In theory these made it possible for any belligerent to buy war material in the United States but the conditions that they must be paid for in cash and title taken in goods before leaving American soil, and that they must be carried in bottoms belonging to belligerent nations had the effect in practice of confining their sale to Britain and France whose navies had driven German shipping from the seas in the first weeks of the war.

It was this practical effect, which the American people desired to achieve, which impelled the majority to support the change in legislation.

The almost complete cessation of hostilities after the defeat of Poland checked the swing of American public opinion towards the democracies. This was the "phoney war" phase in American thinking.

There was exaggerated confidence in the ability of the democracies to withstand any German attack. On the contrary there were deep suspicions that the Allies had no intention of attacking Germany and that some sort of super-Munich would be the eventual outcome.

These suspicions were of course carefully watered and cultivated by German propaganda, which cleverly concentrated not on the hopeless attempt to build up sympathy for Germany but on building up antipathy to the Allies, particularly Britain.

There was, during this phase, no trace of realisation of the danger to American security implicit in an Allied defeat.

The eleven weeks of the devastating German onslaught to the north and the west, from the invasion of Norway on April 9 to the collapse of France on June 17 produced a complete revolution in the American attitude towards the war.

With France knocked out, with the German Wehrmacht in undisputed possession of the entire coast of Europe from the North Cape to the Spanish frontier, America suddenly realised her peril. Only Britain stood between the United States and the possibility of a German attack on the Western Hemisphere.

For 125 years the British Navy had guarded the Atlantic for the United States but it took the events of 1940 to make the American people understand it. If Britain fell—and to most Americans, shocked by the terrible efficiency of the German destruction of Norway, France, Holland and Belgium, Britain's chances of survival seemed utterly hopeless—the British Navy fell with it and the dominating sea power in the Atlantic passed to Germany and Italy.

The Americans realised that they had a two-ocean front to defend with a one-ocean navy. Overnight almost, the American became defence-conscious.

Appropriations of billions of dollars for defence were rushed through Congress, a two-ocean fleet was planned and laid down, legislation permitting conscription to the army was passed and in the midst of all this bustle and confusion the American people had to get their political thinking straight in preparation for the Presidential election.

Two main divergent trends appeared in that thinking then and have continued since. Briefly and generally, one trend was towards the **policy of defending America by helping Britain,** while the other was towards a policy of **American defence first and let Britain sink or swim** as best she could.

The American electorate, with one ear cocked to hear the campaign speeches of candidates and one eye on the news from Britain, where the German air attack was in full fury, tried to make up its mind between those two policies.

As the months of September and October went by and confidence rose in the British ability to withstand the German attack, majority **opinion swung towards the policy of defending America by keeping Britain fighting**. In this it was helped by the fact that both Presidential candidates favoured this policy too.

It was perhaps mainly because President Roosevelt had advocated such a policy from the first and had implemented it by several concrete actions, such as the famous destroyers-for-bases deal, together with confidence in his experience and handling of foreign affairs, that a majority of the electorate voted him back into office for the third term on November 5, 1940.

After the election the deflation of enthusiasm, plus the effect of British survival from German air raids and British successes against the Italians in Libya, induced a period of lethargy in American opinion. It was reawakened by Lord Lothian's admission that Britain's financial resources were running

low on his return to Washington from London shortly before his untimely death.

America was brought to the realisation that the "Cash and Carry". plan was not enough. Out of this grew President Roosevelt's device of "Lease and Lend", which was eventually approved after a strenuous debate in both Houses of the Congress.

To complete the awakening came the German spring offensive in the Balkans and in the Near East, the overrunning of Yugoslavia, the final destruction of the gallant Greek resistance, the capture of Crete and the recapture of the ground lost by the Italians in Libya.

With the extension of Axis influence in France, Spain and North Africa, and renewed signs of aggressive activity by Japan in the Far East, these combined to engulf the American people in another wave of pessimism.

Though the formula was still "all aid short of war", strong doubts began to appear in all sections of American opinion as to whether that formula would suffice to enable Britain and her allies to stop the onrush of German aggression, now not only patently boundless but apparently invincible.

Those doubts crystallised again round the old cleavage—"America First or Democracy First?" They were answered in one crisp sentence in President Roosevelt's broadcast "Fireside Chat" on May 27, 1941. "We do not accept and we will not permit the Nazi shape of things to come."

Since that time the Administration with the weight of majority public opinion among the American people, sometimes a little ahead of it, sometimes a little behind it, but always with it, has moved steadily forward on the broad plan of linking American defence requirements with the Allied war effort in every theatre. Practical evidence of this plan of action was the taking over from Britain of the protection of Iceland.

And the dramatic fruition of that plan is seen in the historic meeting between President Roosevelt and Mr. Winston Churchill "somewhere in the Atlantic". The practical political results of the meeting are already known.

The Atlantic Declaration in its Eight Points commits the United States and Great Britain to adherence to eight basic, economic and political principles in the reconstruction of the world which must follow "after the final destruction of Nazi tyranny."

The joint message sent by the President and that Prime Minister to Stalin throws the whole weight of British and American resources behind Soviet Russia in the common effort to defeat Hitlerism.

There will be many other consequences of the meeting. It is both an end and a beginning—the end of any uncertainty about the American attitude towards the war and the beginning of an era of Anglo-American co-operation

which may influence the course of history for the next hundred years. The slow tide of public opinion in the United States which has carried its people from the Neutrality Act in 1939 to the Atlantic Declaration of 1941 will not change its drift now.

AN INDIAN MUSLIM'S VIEWS ABOUT IRAN

*The **Times** of London, dated August 29th, published the following letter from **Sir Hassan Suhrawardy.***

"THE sentiments of the Moslems of India are with the Moslem countries in the Middle East who are involved in the catastrophe caused by Nazi greed for territorial expansion and the breaking of values held dear by the freedom-loving people of the world.

"German propaganda is trying to characterise the entrance of British and Russian troops into Iran as an act of aggression. On examination, however, it is clear that this is a perversion of the facts. Britain and her allies, who are fighting for freedom and justice and the right to live one's own life, are not at all interested in any territorial expansion, nor in the subjugation of any nations

"Indeed, it is remarkable that during this deadly struggle against a ruthless and dishonourable enemy, Britain has been instrumental in securing the independence of Iraq, Syria and Abyssinia and is fighting to safeguard the interests of Egypt.

"Certainly her own interests are also entwined with those of these countries, but that is due to the spiritual and economic bonds between them and not on account of any idea of annexation of the territories or the subjugation of countries.

"While I advise my British friends and those in authority not to provoke any clash in Iran or other Moslem countries and to respect their susceptibilities to the highest degree, I must also earnestly beg the inhabitants of the great countries of Iran, Afghanistan and Turkey to consider that this temporary occupation by Allied troops is parallel to the occupation of Iceland.

"It has the merits of preventing the valuable oilfields and products of Iran from falling into the hands of the wicked enemy; it also safeguards from devastation the country of Iran itself by the Nazis who respect neither international nor moral nor any kind of law. The quick and skilful amputation of a gangrenous limb saves the whole body from infection and death. Cannot this parallel apply to this case?

"The presence of Dr. Rushdi Aras in London as Turkish Ambassador is of great value to the three countries who are signatories to the Saadabad Treaty and whose accredited representatives have such cordial relations among themselves.

"I strongly recommend the Moslem League in India and my other brethren of Islam to consider the whole action of the Allies in its true perspective and as an act which is in no way unfriendly to Moslem interests or against any Moslem country."

GERMAN RADIO UNABLE TO LAY ITS "GHOST".

THE German radio cannot lay its "ghost" despite elaborate jamming tactics including a non-stop musical accompaniment and shrill whistle. A news bulletin on the Deutschlandsender station had to be postponed for five minutes while trumpets and drums were turned on to drown the mocking ironical interruptions. The Nazi announcer began: "The new victories of the Germans......"

"......In the grave", chimed in the interrupter.

"Fifteen Sovit planes were destroyed......"

"......And what about the German losses ?" came the prompt retort.

The impromptu debate between the announcer and the voice of truth continued.

ANNOUNCER: "The *Luftwaffe* again attacked British airfields".

VOICE: "Says you!"

ANNOUNCER: "German bombers went into action last night".

VOICE: "Have you got any left ?"

ANNOUNCER: "British bombers attempted to raid......"

VOICE: "You bet!"

ANNOUNCER: "The British attacked Italian planes......"

VOICE: "......And made a clean sweep".

ANNOUNCER: "Italian aeroplanes scored hits in the Mediterranean on British ships".

VOICE: "Don't make me laugh! Ha! Ha!"

ANNOUNCER: "The Fuehrer's headquarters announces......"

VOICE: "......What else but lies ?"

ANNOUNCER: "This is the end of the news".

VOICE: "The lies will be on the air tomorrow again".

ANNOUNCER: "For sports news tune in to Breslau".

VOICE: "Fine! I shall be there too".

The voice now interjects one or two words at a time at every pianissimo or a slight pause in the German programme. Countermeasures come too late every time, so that an attentive listener picks up word by word the complete message. It took more than one hour to convey this message to the German people :

" Hitler ! the day of reckoning is near. Hitler ! you will have to pay for your crime. Hitler ! you won't escape ; the rope for you is ready. Hitler ! your war is lost, and Germany will be free again ".

Russians in London think that the voice is "shared" by M. Lozovsky, Deputy Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau, and Ernst Fischer, a former Viennese journalist.

NAZI PLANS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

CHANCES OF WINTER CAMPAIGN IN NORTH AFRICA.

BRITISH SUPPLIES OF AIRCRAFT RESERVES.

ADVANTAGES OF AIR-CARRYING.

by

Oliver Stewart (*In a recent B. B. C. talk.*)

The Germans and Italians have been trying very hard lately to get strong reinforcements to their troops in North-Africa. Convoys have been sailing very frequently and trying to get across that 80-mile stretch of water between Sicily and the mainland. Hardly one of these convoys gets across without being attacked and badly knocked about by the Royal Air Force.

But as the Axis is doing things there on its usual heavy scale, a good deal of stuff, including military stores, transport and so on, does get over. So I think we must expect a winter campaign of some kind in Libya. However the war goes on the Russian front, the Axis is certainly planning a move in North Africa towards the Suez Canal.

I have often mentioned what a good guide air operations are to future moves on the ground, and in this case it is worth noticing that the Suez Canal region has lately had a good many bombing raids.

But in the Sicilian Channel enemy air activity is still slight. They are not giving their convoys heavy air support. They are letting them try and run the gauntlet to the mainland. In fact, the **evidence seems to point to a complete withdrawal of all German aircraft from Sicily.**

SITUATION IN SICILY.

In January, when a big attack was made on one of our Mediterranean convoys and the *Southampton* was put out of action and the *Illustrious* damaged, the Germans had strong air forces in Sicily. Now they seem to have left, and the aerodrome at Catania is occupied by Italian machines. At first this does not look as if the Axis means to move here.

That does not necessarily follow. The Germans at the moment have their hands full. They have had to take everything in the way of aircraft away from Sicily and they had to take a very large number of machines away from Western Europe.

The Russian Air Force has proved a lot stronger than they had thought, and the result is that the bulk of the German Air Force has had to be moved to the East. There were no German machines to spare for leaving in Sicily.

But however heavily engaged they are in one part, the Germans always seem to be making their preparations for the next move in another part. And that is how I interpret the rather curious situation in Sicily now. The Germans have decided that, with the relatively weak air support which the Italians can give, they can shift enough material across the Sicilian Channel to get ready for perhaps a winter offensive in North Africa.

It is worth remembering that the German Air Force is very mobile. If at any moment it could get free of the Russian entanglement, it could be moved very quickly down to Sicily and North Africa, or back to Western Europe.

Air forces are, generally speaking, the last to move and the first to strike. **Bases have to be prepared long in advance** but the operational aircraft only arrive at the last moment.

THE NAZI PLAN.

The Germans seem to regard the Italians in Sicily and North Africa as caretakers. They are to remain there until the Germans have completed their operations elsewhere and are free to move back. That seems to be the idea.

But the Germans do not trust their Italian caretakers. They have left a skeleton force in North Africa and it has in it good aeroplanes of the latest type.

Recently Royal Air Force Tomahawk single-seat fighters met an enemy formation which included aircraft like the Messerschmit 110, and in the raids they have been making on Suez the Germans have been using their latest types of bombers. All that points to plans for a winter campaign in North Africa.

As for our position in meeting an attack there, it has deteriorated in some respects and improved in others. The threat from Japan has tied up some of the Australian forces which might otherwise have been free to fight in Libya. Australia has got to stiffen up her air offensive and can afford fewer of the magnificent airmen who work elsewhere.

SUPPLIES BY AIR.

But British supply lines for air equipment have improved. President Roosevelt mentioned the other day that arrangements had been made to fly aircraft from the United States to the Middle East by way of the west coast of Africa. Pan-American Airways have organised the route.

For a long time American machines have been used in the Middle East. In fact, I believe that outside the Lockheed Hudson which we were using before the war, the first official mention of an R. A. F. manned American aircraft being in action was when a Martin Maryland took photographs of the damage done to Italian warships at Taranto in last November. At any rate the R. A. F. is now using many American machines, including the Marylands and the Tomahawks, and the air supply line that has been set up ought to make sure that there is a continuous string of reinforcements.

Supply by sea to the Middle East is difficult in the present situation and the **more the material that can be sent by air the better. It is really the true situation everywhere**. The more we can send by air the better. The supplies move more quickly, at less risk from enemy action and they save shipping space.

I foresee the time—and it is not now very far distant—when the whole elaborate and expensive business of dismantling, crating and packing aircraft in ships will disappear. Aircraft will be moved about the world by air.

To us the advantages of making aircraft do their own transport work are enormous. It means that without calling on shipping space we can supply our great and growing bomber fleet here from factories which are out of the reach of the enemy. And in the Middle East it means that we can send aircraft reserves by a route which is not only quick but also relatively safe.

LESS VULNERABLE.

That is going to be important in this coming campaign in North Africa. **It is a bigger conception of the use of air transport than anything yet achieved by the Germans**. They have shown great enterprise in the use of air transport for tactical operations. Crete is the best example. **But the United States and ourselves are now using air transport for the much bigger task of main supplies.**

All the military experts emphasise that the supply lines of modern armies are vulnerable and take a lot of men for their defence. But air supply lines will be less vulnerable. They cannot be interrupted by bombing and they are not affected by the nature of the country. It is because of this increase in air-carrying on a grand scale as much as anything else that the effects of air power are becoming greater.

Sea power has always been a decisive factor in a major war because of sea-carrying. Air power will be decisive because of air-carrying. It may be that the first noticeable effects of air-carrying will become apparent in the forthcoming campaign in the Middle East. There we shall be able to reinforce our Air Force by air. Not only from here but also from the United States a constant flow of reserves can be kept up without calling on any additional shipping space.

GROWING UNREST IN NAZI DOMINATED EUROPE.
WHAT NEW DECREES FOR NORWAY PROVE.
DIFFICULTIES OF CZECH QUISLINGS.
HOW BELGIAN WORKMEN OUTWIT GERMANS.

by

Cyril Lakin (*In a recent B. B. C. Talk*).

Only a few months ago the ripples of unrest among the oppressed peoples of Europe were faint. Patriotism and love of liberty were as strong as ever, but in the disorganisation caused by Nazi conquest there were few ways in which patriotism could find expression.

Then came the first, almost imperceptible, ripples of active revolt, and now the tide is running more and more strongly every day. **The V campaign, incidentally, has given a common symbol of renewed hopes to every nation under the Nazi heel.**

Look at what has happened in Norway recently. There you have the most striking and the most significant example of what may soon be happening everywhere in Nazi-occupied Europe. A state of emergency was proclaimed by Hitler's order over the Oslo wireless one night. The decree came into force the next day, and it established what is virtually a state of civil siege throughout Norway.

THE NEW DECREE.

It empowers S. S. officers to make any regulations and carry out any operations they may think necessary, regardless of existing laws. The Norwegian police can be called on to carry out the instructions. All wireless receiving sets are to be handed over in certain districts, affecting practically the whole of Western and Southern Norway.

The order, to quote its text, has been made because the recent trend of events in the war has brought Norway to a decisive phase. It decrees that all acts disturbing public order, economic life, or the harmony of working conditions are subject to court-martial. So are the infringement of special orders issued by the Reich Commissars, or local higher S. S. officers, or police leaders. The court-martial penalties are death, imprisonment for life or for a period of ten years, and the seizure of the property of those condemned.

Why have the Germans been forced to take these drastic measures? It may be, of course, the result of German fears of a British invasion of Norway. But it is much more likely to be the result of active sabotage and of the demonstrations of the Norwegians against the hated Nazi occupation.

STATE OF CIVIL SIEGE.

Recently there was a riot by 5,000 Norwegians in Alesund. The riot was a sequel to outrages by the Gestapo and German-controlled police on the families of young Norwegians who had escaped to England. Seventy hostages, mostly fathers of the fugitives, were captured from outlying farms, and brought to Alesund to await removal to a concentration camp near Oslo.

The date of their departure was supposed to be a deep secret. But when the Germans prepared to take them to the quay where they were to embark, they found a crowd of 5,000 people thronging the streets. German marines had to be called out, and the area around Alesund was proclaimed as being in a state of civil siege.

One significant point about this uprising was that it followed a warning broadcast from Oslo by one of the leading figures in the Quisling party! He had made it clear that revolt was growing by announcing sterner repressive measures, though increasing severity would obviously not be needed if the Quislings had the situation in hand.

"Those people," he said, "who are conspiring against us, and trying to hinder the introduction of the 'New Order', must be prepared for more severe measures to be taken aginst them than have been up till now. Today one is either for us or against us."

Those were his words, and the people of Norway long ago made up their minds. They are against the Quislings, and now from Alesund the state of civil siege has had to be extended to the whole of Norway.

REVEALING DOCUMENT.

It is not only the patriots in the oppressed countries who stand in need of warning. One of the most remarkable of recent documents in which the traitors betray their own weakness is a warning which has just been circulated by the Czech Quislings to the members of their own party. "It is useless," the circular says, "for any member of the pro-Nazi party to try to hedge or desert, for the free Czechs have complete records of all those who have helped the Germans, and there will be no escape for them if Germany is defeated."

This is a very revealing document. We have had many accounts of the difficulties met by the Quislings in finding recruits. **Here is a striking confession that in Czechoslovakia the problem is to hold on to the members they have.**

In the meantime, it is worth noting that propaganda broadcasts from a Czech station have almost abandoned the appeals they poured out so lavishly a few weeks ago to the Czechs to help in the so-called crusade against Bolshevism by working hard.

DANISH BROADCASTS.

Another very significant point concerns the Danish broadcasts from a station controlled by the Nazis. The Germans seem to have some difficulty in getting their propaganda put over with the desired fervour by the Danish staff at the station. At any rate, the latest Danish propaganda nowadays is radiated by the German station, Bremen, and this is the sort of rebuke that Bremen is fond of administering to what it describes as "English-infected Danes who run about with Union Jacks in their buttonholes".

"The courage of these English-infected Danes", says Bremen, "is expressed in rumour-spreading, rumour-writing, and in the instigation of sabotage against Germany and their own country. By deriding the German soldiers, by broadcasting sabotage suggestions over the radio, by teaching children to hate Germany, by slandering good Danish families whose members have sought work in Germany—that is how they show their courage and patriotism".

When Bremen talks in this way of Danish courage and patriotism it means, of course, to be ironical. But irony is a two-edged weapon. In this case it produces the very unusual result of a Nazi broadcast being truthful.

NAZI ARGUMENT.

The scolding of oppressed peoples who refuse to prostrate themselves before their oppressors goes on continually from every Nazi radio transmitter. Here, for example, is Hilversum scolding the patriots in Holland.

"Many Dutchmen think the German occupation is an evil to be endured only till help comes from Britain and the United States. These Dutchmen cannot take defeat like sportsmen. It was an honest defeat. They should admit it and make the best of it". (!!! Ed.)

That is what the Nazis are trying to tell Dutchmen. I suppose we really ought to be grateful to the Nazis for broadcasts like these, which are so colossally stupid as to be first-rate propaganda against themselves. **It might be worth while trying to persuade the Dutch that they had been honestly defeated if Dutch memories were so short that the treacheries of Germans in Holland, and of the Fifth Columnists who sold the passes, or the hideous brutality of the German air bombing of Rotterdam with 30,000 helpless civilian victims, had been forgotten.** As for the farcical impudence of the Nazis calling on the Dutch to be sportsmen, well there, I am afraid, words fail me.

ORDERS DEFIED.

Just across the frontier from Holland the tide of hope is rising into Belgium. Details are coming through of the outburst of patriotic feelings that marked the Belgian national feast, when, in spite of the grip of the Gestapo and the German garrison, hatred of the oppressors welled up uncontrollably throughout the country.

Nowhere was the feeling more strongly expressed than in Brussels, because the arrest of their courageous Burgomaster F. J. Vandemeulenbroeck has made the people of the capital particularly bitter in their loathing of the Nazis. **Orders forbidding processions were defied**, and throughout the day dense crowds of citizens patrolled the main streets and boulevards, booing the Germans and the Belgian traitors associated with them. Some of these Quislings who were rash enough to show themselves in the streets were very roughly handled.

Very much the same thing happened in Antwerp and other cities. Now the Germans, thoroughly alarmed, have threatened Belgian police officials with dismissal and other punishments, for having failed or neglected to prevent the demonstrations.

FALSE AIR RAID ALARM.

Another item of news from Belgium tells of a particularly daring piece of sabotage of the Heron aerodrome near Brussels. The Belgian workmen who were forced to work there gave the false alarm of an air raid by sounding the sirens. As soon as the Germans at the aerodrome had bolted to the air raid shelter, the workmen seized the arms they had left behind and fled. Before they left, they cut the telephone wires, and so they managed to get clear away.

These brave and resourceful men are still at liberty, but the Germans have had their revenge by rearresting a group of Belgian prisoners of war who had been recently liberated, and they have sent their victims to Germany.

One point about this story is worth stressing. It is that **when the Belgian workmen wanted to get the Germans out of the way they did so by pretending that the R. A. F. was approaching.**

That is significant, as significant as the fact that in many parts of Europe when patriots mark up the victory V sign, they very often add the letters, " R.A.F. "

RISING TIDE.

It is as significant as the warning broadcast by the Nazis from Radio Paris, the other day, that any French people helping the crews of Royal Air Force planes to escape, or giving any aid to British airmen, would be brought before German military tribunals and sentenced to death.

There we have one of the reasons why the tide is rising in Europe. In the beginning of the Nazi inundation the oppressed peoples had good reasons to think that it was hopeless to oppose the German might, however bitterly they hated the Germans. Now they see that all the power is not on the side of the enemy.

They know that the Royal Air Force is methodically hammering the Nazis in their own great industrial centres. They know that our fighters and day bombers are regularly sweeping over Northern France. That is one reason. Another is the magnificent resistance which the Russian armies are offering the supposedly invincible German war machine.

I SPEAK TO YOU AS A SOCIALIST.

by

Harold J. Laski.

I SPEAK TO YOU AS A SOCIALIST completely convinced that the whole future of our movement depends upon the defeat of the Axis powers in this war. I do not doubt that the ultimate causes of this war lie in a social and economic system against which socialism is essentially a magistral protest. But the business of a socialist at a great crisis of history is not to turn his back on the crisis. His duty is to see what outcome will be to the maximum advantage of the workers, and to do all he can to secure that outcome. **Since it is clear that Hitler and Mussolini are nothing so much as outlaws in the service of privilege; since, wherever they conquer, all the historic institutions for**

the defence of the working-class rights are destroyed; since their avowed object is the foundation of a new imperialism, far more brutal and ugly than anything in our own record; since they are careless of, even hostile to, all those principles for the attainment of which socialists have fought since the Labour movement began; since they replace the method of free discussion by the concentration-camp; I conclude that the socialist who desires a just and equal society must regard the overthrow of these outlaws as the necessary prelude to the victory of his faith.

There can be No Compromise.

I do not for a moment say that their overthrow is the guarantee of that victory; there are no inevitabilities in history. I argue only that the conditions without which that victory is not possible are unattainable save after their defeat. Between us and them there can be no compromise. We stand for democracy, for the rights of the common man, for a social order built in terms of an equal fellowship; all these they deny. Where they set their feet, there the claims of reason are subordinated to a force which assumes its authority on no other ground than its brute power to enforce obedience. What Hitler and Mussolini mean to the workers none showed more clearly than the Soviet leaders before the Treaty of 23rd August, 1939. All that they then had said has since been thrice and four times more amply proved by events since that time. As British socialists we are overwhelmingly convinced that it is either we or they. **With neither the purposes nor the methods for which they stand can we compromise.**

Some of you may have read that the Independent Labour Party, in a discussion in the House of Commons early in December, urged a conference to end the war forthwith. Mr. Attlee rejected their demands; and I am convinced that, in doing so, he expressed the overwhelming conviction of this country. For a conference implies that there is enough of a common mind between the parties to it to enable them to agree on fundamental principles. There is no such common mind between us to-day. Hitler would not set free the countries he has subjugated as the prior condition to discussion; we could not discuss peace until their liberation. And, in the light of experience, it would be sheer and unpardonable folly to place any reliance on the word of the dictators. We tried appeasement for six barren and tragic years. Their only result was to whet the dictators' appetite for new conquests. Czecho-Slovakia shows us what appeasement means; Poland and France show us what defeat and surrender mean. And I remind you that many of those, especially in the Communist Party, who now urge a settlement by negotiation with Hitler, were most passionate in their denunciation of Munich when such a settlement was made. The two years since Munich have only made it more tragically clear that we socialists were right in our insistence that there can be no peace with the Fascist Dictators.

No Peace with the Dictators.

Do not think for one moment that any of us in the British socialist movement underestimates for a moment the risks of the policy upon which we have decided. We know that, as it were, we are waging a war on two fronts. We have got to defeat the external enemy; we have got, also, to preserve the conditions under which we can go forward to Socialism. I think the mass of the people understand this. I see that in the quality of the common man's effort since the Churchill government was formed. There are literally no words to express one's sense of his courage, his power to endure, his inflexible determination. I go about a good deal—to meetings all over the country, in the shelters, among that younger generation it is my duty to teach, not least, among the fighting men themselves. **The spirit is always the same. You cannot find defeatism with a microscope.** Men and women everywhere know as their deepest faith that life would be intolerable if it were to be lived under the shadow of the Swastika. It would be incompatible with the most elementary British notion of self-respect.

Reform is an Essential Weapon.

There are evils on our social system. Our government has made, and no doubt will still make, grave mistakes. There are inequalities in Britain that seem to me indefensible inequalities. Yet none of them is grave compared to what we should have to endure if the fate of France or Poland were to be ours. **Our rulers know that they cannot win this war save as they convince the common people that their good is involved in the victory.** Even in these hard months while we have been struggling for survival itself, important reforms have been set on foot; I believe that the dynamic of this conflict will call for even profounder changes before it is over. Indeed, I take the view that the great strategic lesson the government is learning is that you can only win an international civil war, like that in which we are engaged, by retaining and making even more profound the confidence of the people, and that you can only gain their confidence by giving them hope and exhilaration. These, in their turn, are the outcome of a diet of great reforms; and I think that, as the grim months of the battle go by, it will be found that a diet of great reforms is an essential weapon in the armoury of victory.

I may be asked whether I seriously expect a ruling class voluntarily to abdicate its privileges; whether I believe that a conservative Prime Minister like Mr. Churchill will co-operate in measures which look to a socialist solution of our problems. My answer is that the general question is the wrong question. **All I know is that the depth of our danger has made men's minds more responsive to the need for fundamental change than at any time in our history; and that, conservative as he is, the test of measures that Mr. Churchill will apply is not whether they are socialist or not, but whether they can be shown**

directly to contribute to the victory he so passionately desires. I think that we are nearer than ever before to that possibility Marx once spoke of when he said that Britain might achieve socialism without revolution. I do not say it is certain; I say only that great leadership now can, during war itself, find a new plane of political relations which will make possible a peaceful transition to a better social order. I do not say this will happen. I say only that the minds of men recognise, as never before, that the mere conflict of private interests is incompatible with a well-ordered commonwealth, and that they are ready to see social experiments upon a scale undreamed of a decade ago. And not a little of this mood is the outcome of a universal sense that the victory is being won by the masses, hardly less in field and factory and workshops than on land and sea and in the air.

I Work and Hope for a British Victory.

I make one other point. **Amid all the dangers of war, the democratic character of the political atmosphere is remarkable.** Civil liberties have stood up well to the test of war. There have been blunders and stupidities; there has been no serious inroad on freedom of speech or association. The Government's decision to intern all aliens was a bad blunder; but it is notable that it was the massive strength of public opinion which compelled it to reverse that policy. And the living reality of public opinion has been enhanced by the thousands of ordinary people who have learned new and important responsibilities—in A. R. P. work for example—during the war. I have no fears for British democracy granted that we win, and I think that, though the road to victory will be long, the darkest hours of the journey are over.

It is therefore as a socialist that I work and hope for a British victory. I know that the problems involved are big problems; and I expect the price of victory to be a heavy one. War at best is a grim and grave tragedy. But we are at one of those turning points of history, like the Reformation, like the French Revolution, like the Russian Revolution, where the choice a socialist has is unmistakable. Those who, like Hitler and Mussolini, consciously make war the instrument of their ambition define themselves as the enemies of the working-class. To work for their defeat is to enlist in the army which marches to the emancipation of the human race.

THE AMERICAN FLEET AND SINGAPORE.

The announcement of the personnel of the American mission to Moscow coincides with reports from Tokyo of a disturbance caused by the flight of 47 Russians from Moscow on a mission to the United States as a demonstration of possible joint Russo-American action from northern bases in the

"encirclement" of Japan, cabled *The Times* Washington Correspondent on September 3.

It coincides with an interview given to the press by a member of Congress, Mr. Maas (Minnesota) who, as a reserve lieutenant-colonel, has recently inspected the Pacific Island bases of the United States. He insisted that American forces must be kept strong enough to prevent an attack on the continental area and the Panama Canal and at the same time to keep open the routes for vital supplies of rubber and tin.

If Japan should make further moves towards the Dutch possessions, he said, the use of Singagore as a base for counter-operations would become indispensable. **The most immediately pressing problem was, he declared, to see that Singapore was kept available for the American fleet even against circumstances compelling the U. S. to operate in the far Pacific.** If Singapore should be captured, the United States for all practical purposes would be driven out of the Pacific.

Mr. Maas mentioned what has long been accepted in American naval circles as axiomatic when the question is considered how the United States fleet could effectively bring up its naval strength in Japanese waters for a combat blockade. If Great Britain at present lacked ships, equally the United States lacked bases, **but an American fleet in strength based on Singapore would not only be able to blockade Japan but could force her to accept battle under conditions least advantageous to her.**

HITLER'S "NEW ORDER"

"Never did so mocking a fantasy obsess the mind of man."

—Winston Churchill.

— Three Questions Answered —

What is the object of Hitler's "New Order"? Pray silence for Dr. Walther Funk, Nazi Economics Minister...—...—

> "The object of the 'New Order' is to guarantee to the Greater German Reich a maximum of economic security and to the German people a maximum of consumption."

v v v v v v v

What is the method by which this "New Order" will be achieved? Pray silence for Herr Ernst Darre, Nazi Agriculture Minister...—...—

> *"All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and will be distributed primarily among working members of the (Nazi) Party."*

What blessing does the "New Order" bring which the "Old Order" failed to provide? Pray silence again for Herr Ernst Darré...—...—

"Please do not interpret the word 'slave' as a parable or rhetorical term. We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery."

v v v v v v v

HITLER, NAPOLEON AND MOSCOW.

Napoleon started his campaign against Russia on June 23, 1812.

Hitler started his campaign against Russia on June 22, 1941.

Napoleon entered Moscow on September 14, 1812.

Hitler, on September 14, 1941, found his forces held up before Leningrad (400 miles from Moscow), Kiev (450 miles from Moscow) and Odessa (700 miles from Moscow). The furthest point Nazi penetration (in the Smolensk sector) is 200 miles from the Russian capital.

Hitler's soldiers, like Napoleon's, find themselves surrounded by gueril-las in a hostile land and burdened with unwilling allies.

Lack of supply facilities forced Napoleon to retreat and only one in every 30 of the French dictator's army of 600,000 men stumbled back across the Niemen, haggard, ragged and famished.

With characteristic German thoroughness, Hitler is taking great pains to avoid a repetition of Napoleon's débâcle. Hitler has mastered the art of mechanical warfare, but he cannot nullify the effect of cold on tank and plane engines, of snow on all movement, of winter darkness on the spirits of his men.

While the R. A. F. batters his communications in the rear, Hitler has to face the fact that Britain and America are rushing the utmost possible aid to Moscow. The Anglo-American Supply Mission has been set up. One week's entire tank out-put from British factories is earmarked for immediate delivery to aid the defence of Leningrad. A complete wing of the R.A.F. is already operating on the Eastern Front. Portal's bombs, Beaverbrook's and Harriman's brains, are helping Stalin to win this war of supplies.

———

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED.

A Commentary on Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East.

For the period September 8—14, 1941.

TWO VOICES: HIS MASTER'S AND HIS OWN.

"Petersburg, which is an important place from the military point of view, is captured by our army." *(Italian news in Hindustani, Sept. 12.)*

"The encirclement of Leningrad and Lake Ladoga robs the Soviet Union of two important connections of the Murmansk region." *(German news in English, Sept. 14.)*

THE R. A. F. AND DR. GOEBBELS.

"Needless to say the damage caused by the raid on Berlin is of no consequence whatever to the German war effort, the civilian morale is very high." *(German news in English, Sept. 9.)*

Capt. Wolffblei, the spokesman of the German Air Ministry said recently :—

"Needless to say the British air raids on Germany are indeed a bitter affair for many........The English are a very tough people, so do not get frightened by enemey air raids. Be tough, Germans".

v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v

"From June 22 to Sept. 9, Britain lost over 1,200 planes, while the Luftwaffe itself suffered insignificant losses." *(German news in Persian, Arabic and Hindustani, Sept. 11.)*

Germany's air losses amount to two-thirds of the British losses and this inspite of their increased reliance on anti-aircraft guns. The R. A. F. carried out 57 heavy night raids in July and 46 in August. In July the R. A. F. dropped $5\frac{1}{2}$ times the weight of bombs dropped in January.

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"The British Government intend to make sham concessions in connection with a complaint raised by Australia and New Zealand that they had to bear the chief losses in men." *(German news in English, Sept. 10.)*

In Greece British losses were 75,658 men, Australian 2,968 and New Zealand 2,266. In Crete British losses were 6,870, Australian 3,560 and New Zealand 2,540. In neither case do the combined Dominion losses amount to those of Britain. Every Dominion Premier without exception has consistently declared his government's desire to take an increasing part in the war against Germany.

THE LEGEND.

"It is impossible to build a durable life in common in Europe, between nations which do not enjoy equal rights.".—*Hitler, Berlin 24-10-33.*

"The new Europe is being built by the love and faith of the Fuehrer".—*Berliner Zwoelf Uhr Blatt, 19-6-40.*

"The occupied territories are being systematically linked up with German economics, which are based on the principle that each inhabitant must have sufficient food".—*German broadcast to Yugoslavia, 9-11-40.*

"Within a few months Germany has, in fact given freedom to this continent".—*Hitler at Munich, 8-11-40.*

THE BITTER TRUTH.

"In the higher administration no Poles are employed. The Pole is only used for the lesser jobs".—*Deutsche Allegemeine Zeitung, 6—10—40.*

The German authorities are issuing yellow supplementary ration cards for sugar, fats, and meat to the Germam nationals in France.—*Radio Paris, 20—12—40.*

"The German race needs more dwelling space and better living conditions than the Poles or Jews. The answer to the question: 'By what right', is 'By the right of self-determination'".—*Ley, Cracow, 8—11—40.*

"Sabotage, passive resistance and thinly disguised hostility paralyse the adaptation of the Belgian economy".-*Le Noveau Journal, Brussels, 1-1-41.*

"Degenerate Dutch are imprisoned for cheering British airmen".—*Essen National Zeitung.*

Men of Cologne imprisoned for listening to B. B. C.—*Kolnische Zeitung*

Food scarcity, sabotage, train-wrecking, and "scorched earth" greet Hitler wherever he sets his foot.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941— **LECTURE LXIII**—(*Batch 5*).

October ...	1, Wednesday	Kolavoipatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilayur (South) ...	6.30 p. m.
	2, Thursday ...	Piliyur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kannangudi ...	6.30 p. m.
	3, Friday ...	Melur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Pillamangalam ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LXIV—(*Batch 1*).

	4, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	5, Sunday ...	Poovarasagudi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Venkatakulam ...	6.30 p. m.
	6, Monday ...	Perungalur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Adanakkottai ...	6.30 p. m.
	7, Tuesday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Tirugokarnam ...	5.30 p. m.
		Malampatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Parambur ...	6.30 p. m.
	8 Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Arimalam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilanilaikottai ...	6.30 p. m.
	9, Thursday ...	Kiranur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Nanjur ...	6.30 p. m.
	10, Friday ...	Odayalippatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Killukottai ...	6.30 p. m.

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